

House District _____
Senate District _____

THE TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
APPLICATION FOR GRANTS
CHAPTER 42F, HAWAII REVISED STATUTES

Log No: _____

For Legislature's Use Only

Type of Grant Request:

GRANT REQUEST - OPERATING

GRANT REQUEST - CAPITAL

"Grant" means an award of state funds by the legislature, by an appropriation to a specified recipient, to support the activities of the recipient and permit the community to benefit from those activities.

"Recipient" means any organization or person receiving a grant.

STATE DEPARTMENT OR AGENCY RELATED TO THIS REQUEST (LEAVE BLANK IF UNKNOWN): _____

STATE PROGRAM I.D. NO. (LEAVE BLANK IF UNKNOWN): _____

1. APPLICANT INFORMATION:

Legal Name of Requesting Organization or Individual:

Dbn: Aloha Independent Living Hawaii

Street Address:

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 283
Pearl City, Hawaii 96782

2. CONTACT PERSON FOR MATTERS INVOLVING THIS APPLICATION:

Name ROXANNE U BOLDEN

Title Executive Director

Phone # 808-497-2350

Fax # 1-800-385-2454

E-mail rubolden@alohaihawaii.org

3. TYPE OF BUSINESS ENTITY:

- NON PROFIT CORPORATION INCORPORATED IN HAWAII
 FOR PROFIT CORPORATION INCORPORATED IN HAWAII
 LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY
 OTHER
 SOLE PROPRIETORSHIP/INDIVIDUAL

6. DESCRIPTIVE TITLE OF APPLICANT'S REQUEST:

4. FEDERAL TAX ID #: _____

5. STATE TAX ID #: _____

7. AMOUNT OF STATE FUNDS REQUESTED:

FISCAL YEAR 2016: \$ 100,000

8. STATUS OF SERVICE DESCRIBED IN THIS REQUEST:

- NEW SERVICE (PRESENTLY DOES NOT EXIST)
 EXISTING SERVICE (PRESENTLY IN OPERATION)

SPECIFY THE AMOUNT BY SOURCES OF FUNDS AVAILABLE AT THE TIME OF THIS REQUEST:

STATE \$ 247,000
FEDERAL \$ 420,685
COUNTY \$ _____
PRIVATE/OTHER \$ _____

TYPE NAME & TITLE OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE:

ROXANNE U BOLDEN
NAME & TITLE

JAN 30, 2015
DATE SIGNED



RECEIVED
1-30-15 ✓

Aloha Independent Living Hawaii

P.O. BOX 283 PEARL CITY, HAWAII 96782
Tel / Fax: 800.385.2454



www.AlohaILHawaii.org

January 30, 2015

MISSION

Aloha Independent Living Hawaii (AILH) dedicated to providing independent living programs and services for persons with disabilities in Hawaii.

We work together with the community and consumers to improve the quality of life through individual choices and access to services.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Roxanne U. Bolden

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chair / Sec

Dara Fukuhara

Vice Chair

Pamela L'Adnier

Treasurer

Clint Oka

Member

Scott Suzuki
Teresa Bryant
Gene Gustafson
Pauline Aughe
Milton Drageset

Senate Committee on Ways and Means:
State Capitol, Rm. 207
Honolulu, HI 96813
Attn: GIA

Members of the Hawaii State Legislature:

Aloha Independent Living Hawaii (AILH) respectfully submits this proposal for \$100,000 in funding to increase our capacity and continue the successful operations of our agency's sixth year in providing independent living services to persons with disabilities throughout the State of Hawaii.

Aloha Independent Living Hawaii (AILH) is a 501(c)(3) grassroots not-for-profit organization, whose mission is to provide independent living programs and services for persons with disabilities in Hawaii. In 2009, AILH was founded by a group of experienced, committed and dedicated professionals who wanted to give persons with disabilities in Hawaii the choice of where to receive independent living services. The majority of the board and staff members are persons with disabilities.

Aloha Independent Living Hawaii will provide the core services of information and referral, peer support and counseling, individual and systems advocacy, and independent living skills training. We are in the process of adding a fifth core service of transition. Our consumer driven focus of providing IL services will continue to meet the needs of consumers who have not been receiving the services they are seeking to obtain. Our goal is to provide every person within Hawaii's disability community seeking IL services with the attention they need from a dedicated IL Specialist.

Following this cover is our application with the necessary forms and information requested. Additionally, we have included the following supporting documents:

- 3 Consumer Vignettes
- 4 Organizational Letters of Support
- 4 Consumer Letters of Support*
- 3 Resumes of Key Personnel

*Please note - any consumer information must be redacted for privacy.

Mahalo,



Roxanne U. Bolden
Executive Director

Application for Grants

If any item is not applicable to the request, the applicant should enter "not applicable".

I. Background and Summary

This section shall clearly and concisely summarize and highlight the contents of the request in such a way as to provide the State Legislature with a broad understanding of the request. Please include the following:

1. A brief description of the applicant's background;

Aloha Independent Living Hawaii (AILH) respectfully submits this proposal to increase our capacity and continue the successful operations of our agency's sixth year in providing independent living services to persons with disabilities throughout the State of Hawaii.

Aloha Independent Living Hawaii is a 501(c)(3) grassroots not-for-profit organization, whose mission is to provide independent living programs and services for persons with disabilities in Hawaii. In 2009, AILH was founded by a group of experienced, committed and dedicated professionals who wanted to give persons with disabilities in Hawaii the choice of where to receive independent living (IL) services. The majority of the board and staff members are persons with disabilities.

Aloha Independent Living Hawaii will provide the core services of information and referral, peer support and counseling, individual and systems advocacy, and independent living skills training. We are in the process of adding a fifth core service of transition. Our goal is to provide every person within Hawaii's disability community seeking IL services with the attention they need from a dedicated IL Specialist.

Services will be provided through our effective and efficient roving office model. Our IL Specialists provide direct services in three environments: (1) consumer homes, (2) beaches and parks, (3) other community agencies and churches. The flexibility of providing services within multiple environments means that physical access can be ensured.

2. The goals and objectives related to the request;

This Grant in Aid will allow AILH to improve our operation through the enhancement of our many programs. We will also be able to supplement our support groups, providing a wider range of activities and programs. This grant would enable AILH to serve a larger number of consumers while providing the same high quality of service that is synonymous with the brand name of Aloha Independent Living Hawaii.

The following delineates specific areas we will utilize the funding provided by this Grant in Aid:

1. Facilitate additional peer support groups and skill development classes tailored to the needs of AILH's consumers and their environments throughout the Hawaiian Islands. This includes the addition of a mobility training group for those who are visually impaired or blind and the "Living Well With a Disability" support group.
2. Enhance community outreach, especially to underserved and remote locations with limited access throughout our islands.
3. Increase our hours of operation by offering full time hours to the IL Specialists.
4. Staff development: provide funding for staff to attend various trainings and conferences for professional development.
5. Staffing: enable us to hire additional IL Specialists as needed, so we can add to our operational capacity and increase our statewide reach.

The following outlines the anticipated activities for advocacy, outreach, resource development, community and individual IL service needs:

- Provide the consumer training in landlord/tenant rights, how to complete a housing application, how to locate housing and how to maintain their housing situation. This will reduce the risk of being homeless and dependent on others.
- Provide the consumer with one-on-one independent living skills to carry out their everyday living activities (household and shopping chores, etc.). This will reduce the dependence on others.
- Provide the consumer with information on their legal rights, how to access information, who to contact, etc., so they may be able to share this knowledge with their peers. This will empower consumers to self-advocate for their rights.
- Provide one-on-one training with consumers to acquire problem-solving and decision-making skills. This will empower them in making the right choices.
- Provide consumers with housing referrals to acquire a place to live. This will increase their independence and decrease dependency on family and/or friends.
- Provide consumers with attendant referrals to acquire personal care assistance services. This will increase their independence to remain at home versus institutionalization.
- Provide consumers with information on their entitlements and guidelines to apply for these benefits. This increases self-worth and self-sufficiency in their daily living.
- Continue to offer all of our consumers assistance in completing their voter registration.

3. The public purpose and need to be served;

We are committed to empowering individuals with disabilities and enabling them to change personal interactions from dependence to interdependence. We have observed that when individuals realize their inherent value and are able to adapt to their disability, there is an increase in goal setting behaviors and a positive attitudinal shift in self-esteem. This, in turn, increases productivity and promotes added opportunities within the community.

Since 11.1 % of residents in Hawaii have a disability, the well-being, independence, and success of people with disabilities has a major impact on our state's economy. Cornell

University. (2012) Disability Status Report - Hawaii. The services that AILH provides, empowers people with disabilities to live independently, work, and participate in community life. This, in turn, brings in revenue for the state in the form of income tax and sales tax, and means less dependence on public services.

Additionally, AILH saves money for the State of Hawaii by providing programs to transition people from nursing homes back to community-based living and services to help people avoid entering institutions. We also provide employment services and supports, and services to young people with disabilities who are making the transition from school to work.

A core mission of AILH is to integrate persons with disabilities into the community. By fully integrating persons with disabilities into our local communities, it allows all people to participate in all aspects of community living. All of Hawaii is enhanced and revitalized when all of its residents have access to resources.

Given these statistics and outcomes, the need for comprehensive IL services for all of Hawaii becomes apparent.

4. Describe the target population to be served; and

AILH targets a wide range of people with disabilities and cross-disabilities. Many agencies serve a single type of disability, creating the assumption that all individuals within the disability population are receiving services, yet many remain un-served. AILH provides services to individuals of any age with a range of disabilities throughout the State of Hawaii, including individuals with disabilities who are members of populations that are un-served or underserved.

The population of the State of Hawaii was estimated to be in excess of 1.4 million in 2013 (some three years after the latest U.S. Census count.) Honolulu County covers the most populous island of Oahu with a total population of roughly 983,000 and encompasses the heavily urban areas of the Honolulu metropolitan area as well as outlying rural areas. Hawaii County is the second most populous county that covers the Big Island of Hawaii and includes over 191,000 persons. Maui County follows with around 160,000 people spread between the islands of Maui, Lanai, and Molokai. Kauai County population is approximately 70,000 people.

The best data set enumerating people with disabilities in Hawaii is obtained from the most recent report from the American Community Survey (ACS) based on U.S. Census Bureau data collection of 2012. For the entire state, there is an estimated total of 146,622 persons with disabilities. Types of disability run the range from difficulties with hearing, vision, cognition, ambulation, self-care, and independent living, with prevalence of any single category of disability changing by various age brackets. AILH is here to provide IL services for anyone with a disability throughout the great State of Hawaii.

5. Describe the geographic coverage.

Our Independent Living Center will serve all ranges of disability types for all age groups in all four counties of Hawaii.

AILH is keenly aware of Hawaii's cultural landscape, because our staff are residents with roots in the communities they serve. Staff also connects with and discusses important issues with their consumers.

Several common denominators were identified among all the islands. The first being the cultural tendency of local residents to rely primarily on their families for support. Our staff is accustomed to becoming a part of the extended family, allowing the consumer and their family to be more accepting of our services. The second is the rural nature of the infrastructure, which creates travel difficulties for persons with various disabilities and limits their access to services provided in fixed locations. AILH utilizes roving offices to address this issue and successfully serve the consumers in these locations. The third is the inherent nature of the consumer population to maintain the status quo, not to make waves by complaining about one's circumstances. The fourth is the climate of "perceived scarcity of resources" which creates an environment where sharing resources or information is not commonplace. Therefore AILH staff make an extra effort to build networking relationships with other service providers by sitting on various boards and committees.

AILH is also aware of Hawaii's cultural landscape as it pertains to the differences on each of the neighboring islands. The following are some illustrations of these differences. The City of Hilo, on the Island of Hawaii, has a large Micronesian population, which is an ethnic minority that is often discriminated against, particularly in regard to the health-care system. Additionally, the Micronesian culture is inherently a tight knit, insular culture. AILH was successful in being welcomed into the culture and providing services to the disability community within. This was accomplished through firsthand investigation and by being culturally sensitive to people residing in Hawaii under the Compact of Free Association.

Additionally, The City of Hilo, on the Island of Hawaii, has limited public transportation and lacks an extensive Paratransit system. The Paratransit system is limited to taking consumers to their doctors' appointments and shopping trips to a limited number of locations on fixed days of the week. Transportation for individually scheduled travel for socialization purposes is Advisory Board Meetings where inroads are being made to improve and enhance the system.

On the Island of Maui, AILH's IL Specialist describes the local public transportation as limited to the "countryside" and lacking coverage in the "inland areas."

II. Service Summary and Outcomes

The Service Summary shall include a detailed discussion of the applicant's approach to the request. The applicant shall clearly and concisely specify the results, outcomes, and measures of effectiveness from this request. The applicant shall:

1. Describe the scope of work, tasks and responsibilities;

Aloha Independent Living Hawaii has two broad goals. The first is to address the rights and responsibilities of people with disabilities by providing various training, education and technical assistance. We work to heighten accessibility, awareness, and understanding so people with disabilities can have equal access and opportunities. The second goal is to facilitate the accomplishment of individualized goals that the consumers establish. Whether the issue is

related to housing, benefits, personal care, accessibility, assistive technology, healthcare, transportation or any other sources of independent living, we work with our consumers to achieve their goals. Even more than this, we want our consumers to learn the process and develop skills for life-long independent living.

The concept behind independent living is the empowerment of persons with disabilities to make choices in their lives that will enhance their dignity and self-respect and provide full integration into the community as equal citizens with all the privileges and responsibilities available to others. Ignorance and discriminatory practices in society continues to cause a combination of low education, low vocation, low income, and low social opportunity outcomes. People with disabilities have to overcome their own limitations and inhibitions, as well as compete in a society that for decades has related to them as “second-class citizens.”

AILH accomplishes these goals through the provision of the five core IL services:

Information and Referral (I&R) – Provide referrals for specific services offered by AILH or other agencies. AILH’s Independent Living Specialists utilize a vast compilation of resource materials, which is continually updated. AILH’s IL Specialists also perform outreach in the community by participating in expos, disability fairs, and other similar events where information is disseminated through distribution of agency brochures and personal interactions.

Independent Living Skills Training – Assist consumers in developing the skills needed to live independently. AILH’s Independent Living Skills Specialists empower consumers with the knowledge of how to perform the daily tasks essential for maintaining or obtaining independence. Life skills can include the following: household budgeting, financial management, utilizing public transportation or local paratransit, navigating through the social services system, problem-solving techniques, and personal safety.

Advocacy (Individual and Systems) – Advocating for the deinstitutionalization of our consumers. Work to address equal access issues and promote systems change. At AILH we advocate for the needs of our consumers as well as foster self-empowerment and self-advocacy. Through education and outreach, the disability community and individual consumers are provided the skills and information they need to reach their goal of independence. AILH’s staff provides technical support by serving on the Mayor’s Disability Advisory Board in both the City of Honolulu and the City of Hilo. Advocacy is a role that all AILH staff plays on behalf of any member of the disability community who are facing attitudinal, architectural, or systemic obstacles.

Peer Support – Provide one-to-one informal support and advice. AILH’s IL Specialists provide non-clinical counseling to consumers. The benefits of peer support are tremendous when one is dealing with a challenging experience. Support from peers offers emotional, social and practical assistance that helps people accomplish what they need to do in order to maintain healthy, independent lives. They serve as peer mentors by sharing their experience and understanding of the obstacles faced by people with disabilities and offering practical solutions. They also empower consumers to achieve greater independence through their own examples of consumer-control and by sharing their own day-to-day experiences.

Transition - Although AILH has always provided the following services, starting in May 2015 this will become a fifth core service with greater emphasis. Our IL Specialists provide information about programs and services to help people transition from health care facilities to community-based living or help people avoid entering institutions. Our IL Specialists also provide services and information to young people with disabilities transitioning into their next stage; either employment, further education, or independent living.

AILH's service delivery model has exemplified a successful hybrid approach to creating satellite office sites or "roving offices" in combination with our physical locations. Due to the unique geographic and cultural identity of each of the islands, the roving offices will continue to allow staff to efficiently customize services for consumers on an individual as well as per-island basis. The roving office uses a consumer-centered philosophy to provide a higher level of service delivery, while reaching a greater portion of the disabled population in underserved areas. Combined with the support of our two physical offices, the agency headquarters in Waipahu and our Hilo office, the outer-island offices are given the opportunity to provide service to the un-served and underserved consumers from within their communities.

In addition to the consumer population, the military, community organizations, and businesses have all enthusiastically formed collaborative partnerships with AILH. The common goal for all is providing much needed services to persons with disabilities. These collaborative partnerships enable AILH to provide all IL services to all of the disability community throughout Hawaii.

AILH will be offering eight support groups: a residential activity group at Hale Kuhao and Hui Malama Po'o (cognitive therapy for people with traumatic brain injury) on Oahu; Living Well with a Disability group and Ho'olokahi, a group for multiple disabilities on Maui; an older adults group, a women's group, and two youth groups on the Big Island. Our groups offer consumers a support network of their peers while helping them to learn how to advocate for their individual needs.

2. Provide a projected annual timeline for accomplishing the results or outcomes of the service;

Because we are a consumer-driven agency, the exact timeline of when each individual targets to achieve their IL goals can be difficult to pinpoint. The following chart is the best representation of the program and individual results. Our services and events are made available at each of the four county locations.

Activity	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Four Core IL Services	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
5th Core IL Service, Transition					X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Our 6 Established Support Groups	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
2 New Maui Support Groups					X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
AILH's Consumer Holiday Events	X										X	X
HPD's Weed & Seed Program at Hale Kuhao										X		
AILH Quarterly Newsletter	X			X			X			X		
Charity Walks					X							
White Cane Awareness Day - Big Island										X		

3. Describe its quality assurance and evaluation plans for the request. Specify how the applicant plans to monitor, evaluate, and improve their results; and

Consumer control is the driving factor for service delivery. Consumers determine what goals they intend to achieve and how they will obtain them. Staff provides guidance and the resources required by consumers to attain their goals. ALIH's goal is to meet our consumers' needs and treat them with the utmost respect.

One way we accomplish this is by returning consumers' phone calls within two business days. Also, consumer satisfaction surveys are given to each consumer to monitor the quality of service that we are providing. We have weekly staff meetings where active cases are discussed to ensure that consumers are effectively served and working toward their goals in gaining greater independence. This feedback has continually improved our services. Through these methods, we have identified additional programs, services and helped to improve the quality of life for our consumers.

In addition to having a clear and helpful protocol for addressing all consumer issues, we provide our consumers with information on the Client Assistance Program (CAP), which provides oversight of our programs.

As a part of our thorough quality assurance measures, we provide annual and monthly reports to the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation on consumer and program progress. We also

participate in quarterly on-site consumer file audits with the DVR. We also provide annual detailed reporting to the Rehabilitation Services Administration.

“Aloha IL has been compliant with their current contract by submitting all required reports and documents, as well as participating in regular face to face quarterly meetings.” (Lorene Gokan, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, July 09, 2014)

4. List the measure(s) of effectiveness that will be reported to the State agency through which grant funds are appropriated (the expending agency). The measure(s) will provide a standard and objective way for the State to assess the program's achievement or accomplishment. Please note that if the level of appropriation differs from the amount included in this application that the measure(s) of effectiveness will need to be updated and transmitted to the expending agency.

We will record all service delivery in our database and generate any reports your representatives request in a timely manner. AILH is familiar with the recording of service delivery and appropriate reporting in accordance with other funder requirements. Our agency accomplishes this through the diligent efforts of our support staff, our IL Specialists as well as ongoing review by our management staff.

We measure our effectiveness by the requests we receive and the number of consumers we successfully serve in the following areas:

1. Information and referral services. We provide information to our consumers on all disability related services available in the community, through our programs and other agencies.
2. Accessible and affordable housing assistance. This includes: advocacy, information and referral to the appropriate agencies and programs, reviewing classified ads and housing leads, subsidised housing application assistance.
3. Recreational services. Consumers engage in socialization and peer support by participating our many events, support groups, and activities.
4. Transportation. This includes assisting our consumers in finding and obtaining voucher assistance, para-transportation, and other accessible transportation.
5. Health care services. We inform and assist our consumers so that they can receive the health care which best suits their needs.
6. Mobility training. We currently assist people with mobility training. It is our intent with these funds to start a more comprehensive mobility training program that will assist persons with vision impairments.

III. Financial

Budget

1. The applicant shall submit a budget utilizing the enclosed budget forms as applicable, to detail the cost of the request.

Please see attached forms

2. The applicant shall provide its anticipated quarterly funding requests for the fiscal year 2016.

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Total Grant
25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	100,000

3. The applicant shall provide a listing of all other sources of funding that they are seeking for fiscal year 2016.

We diversify our funding sources by continually seeking out and applying for various forms of contributions including: federal, state, county, foundational, in-kind and private donations.

4. The applicant shall provide a listing of all state and federal tax credits it has been granted within the prior three years. Additionally, the applicant shall provide a listing of all state and federal tax credits they have applied for or anticipate applying for pertaining to any capital project, if applicable.

N/a

5. The applicant shall provide a listing of all government contracts and grants it has been and will be receiving for program funding.

We are under contract with the Federal Government for receiving Title VII Part C funding under the Rehabilitation Service Administration (RSA) to serve Hawaii's Neighbor Islands. Additionally, we are under contract with the Hawaii Division of Vocational Rehabilitation to provide IL services statewide. We also receive supplemental funding from a variety of other sources including foundations and private donations.

1. Title VII Part B Funding Allocated by the State Government
2. Title VII Part C Funding Allocated by the Federal Government
3. Workforce Development Council, Assistive Technology Contract

6. The applicant shall provide the balance of its unrestricted current assets as of December 31, 2014.

\$39,449

IV. Experience and Capability

A. Necessary Skills and Experience

The applicant shall demonstrate that it has the necessary skills, abilities, knowledge of, and experience relating to the request. State your experience and appropriateness for providing the service proposed in this application. The applicant shall also provide a listing of verifiable experience of related projects or contracts for the most recent three years that are pertinent to the request.

AILH demonstrates its excellence by the quality of our Advisory Board, Working Board, current staff, and the accomplishments achieved during our past six years of operation. Since the inception of AILH, Executive Director, Roxanne Bolden has spearheaded the agency's successful delivery of unparalleled IL services to the disability community of Hawaii. Building the agency from the ground up, she has recruited, trained, and managed a highly competent staff of IL Specialists and support personnel. AILH staff has provided service to hundreds of consumers. We continue to successfully provide independent living services statewide, including the rural areas of Oahu and the Big Island.

Our consumer driven focus of providing IL services will continue to meet the needs of consumers who have not been receiving the services they are seeking to obtain. Our goal is to provide every person within Hawaii's disability community seeking IL services with the attention they need from a dedicated IL Specialist.

We provide services by using a matrix approach of physical facilities and roving offices that ensures access for all people with disabilities. We currently have two physical office locations, one on Hilo and one on Oahu, where office space has been loaned to AILH. Both of our locations are ADA compliant and are easily accessed by people with mobility issues. By visiting people in their homes, we guarantee access to our services. This is especially important when the very advocacy they require is home modifications and barrier removal to enable them access to their homes in a dignified manner.

We share the IL philosophy of "nothing about us, without us." By charter, over 50 percent of our staff and Board members must have a disability. We intend to ensure that individuals with disabilities continue to have representation at all levels of our agency.

It is the intention of AILH to continue helping consumers learn about empowerment and to change personal interactions from dependence to interdependence. We have observed that when individuals realize their inherent value and are able to adapt to their disability, there is an increase in goal setting behaviors and a positive attitudinal shift in self-esteem. This in turn increases productivity and promotes added opportunities within the larger community.

We welcome you to review the attached letters of support and consumer vignettes.

Verifiable Experience:

1. Rehabilitation Services Administration, Title VII Part C Federal Funding, 10-1-14 to 10-1-19, Timothy Beatty, Chief, IL Unit; Felipe Lulli, Representative, IL Unit, 202-245-7425
2. Hawaii Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Title VII Part B Funding, 10-1-09 to 10-1-16, Albert Perez, Administrator; Lorene Gokan, Program Specialist, (808) 586-9746
3. Workforce Development Council, Assistive Technology Contract 7-18-12, Stan Fichtman, Employment Analyst; Kevin Kimizuka 808-984-2091

B. Facilities

The applicant shall provide a description of its facilities and demonstrate its adequacy in relation to the request. If facilities are not presently available, describe plans to secure facilities.

AILH's main office is presently located in Waipahu, Oahu. The Waipahu office space has been loaned by The Independent Living Waipahu, Incorporated's (ILW, Inc.) housing facility, The Harry & Jeanette Weinberg "Hale Kuhao." In October 2014, we opened our second physical office location in Hilo.

Combined with the support of our two physical offices, the agency headquarters in Waipahu and our Hilo office, the outer-island offices are given the opportunity to provide service to the un-served and underserved consumers from within their communities. Having two physical locations has many advantages, including: making it easier to locate and contact the agency, facilitating public outreach, and increasing public awareness while reducing the stigma of having a disability. Our consumers, many of whom found us due to our physical location, have complimented the uplifting ambiance. Both locations mentioned above are fully compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

V. Personnel: Project Organization and Staffing

A. Proposed Staffing, Staff Qualifications, Supervision and Training

The applicant shall describe the proposed staffing pattern and proposed service capacity appropriate for the viability of the request. The applicant shall provide the qualifications and experience of personnel for the request and shall describe its ability to supervise, train and provide administrative direction relative to the request.

In order to fully serve all local areas with the quality of service that consumers have come to expect from AILH, we have a caseload capacity of 40 new cases for any IL Specialist.

Some highlights of key skills and accomplishments of our dedicated professionals follows, but this is by no means a complete detail of all of the related experience.

All of our IL Specialists are experienced in providing IL services and are deeply committed to the betterment of the disabled community throughout the State of Hawaii.

Minimum Qualifications of our IL Specialists:

- Experience providing IL services
- Knowledge of community resources
- Skills required in oral and written communication
- Organizational skills
- Ability to work independently
- Must have own transportation to work with consumers in the community
- Personal experience with disability preferred

Our Executive Director and our IL Program Coordinator are very familiar with serving people with disabilities throughout the State of Hawaii as well as managing and training IL service providers. For further details, please see attached resumes of key personnel.

Roxanne Bolden, Executive Director. Ms. Bolden has over 20 years of experience working with the disability community, including 19 years of service for independent living providers. She has excelled in many management positions, including the creation and supervision of the Guam and Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Centers and the training of its respective Center Directors. Roxanne served as the Liaison for the San Diego State University's (SDSU) Rehabilitation Community Educational Program (RCEP) and the Coordinator for the National Technical Assistance Center (NTAC) for Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders for Employment. As the Executive Director of AILH, Roxanne successfully spearheads our growing agency while providing direct services to consumers. She is known for her integrity and passion in serving the disability community. She is currently the Program Coordinator for ILW, Inc. where she oversees the entire project, bringing public awareness to Hawaii's first technically enhanced, accessible environment for persons with significant physical disabilities. She was a member of the Mayor's Advisory Committee on Disabilities in the City & County of Honolulu and has served on many non-profit boards including but not limited to: Hawaii Fido Service Dogs, Independent Living Waipahu, Inc. and the Honolulu Community Action Program. She helped established AILH to give consumers a choice of where to receive IL services, especially to those who were previously un-served and undeserved. Ms. Bolden possesses the knowledge and skills to direct AILH.

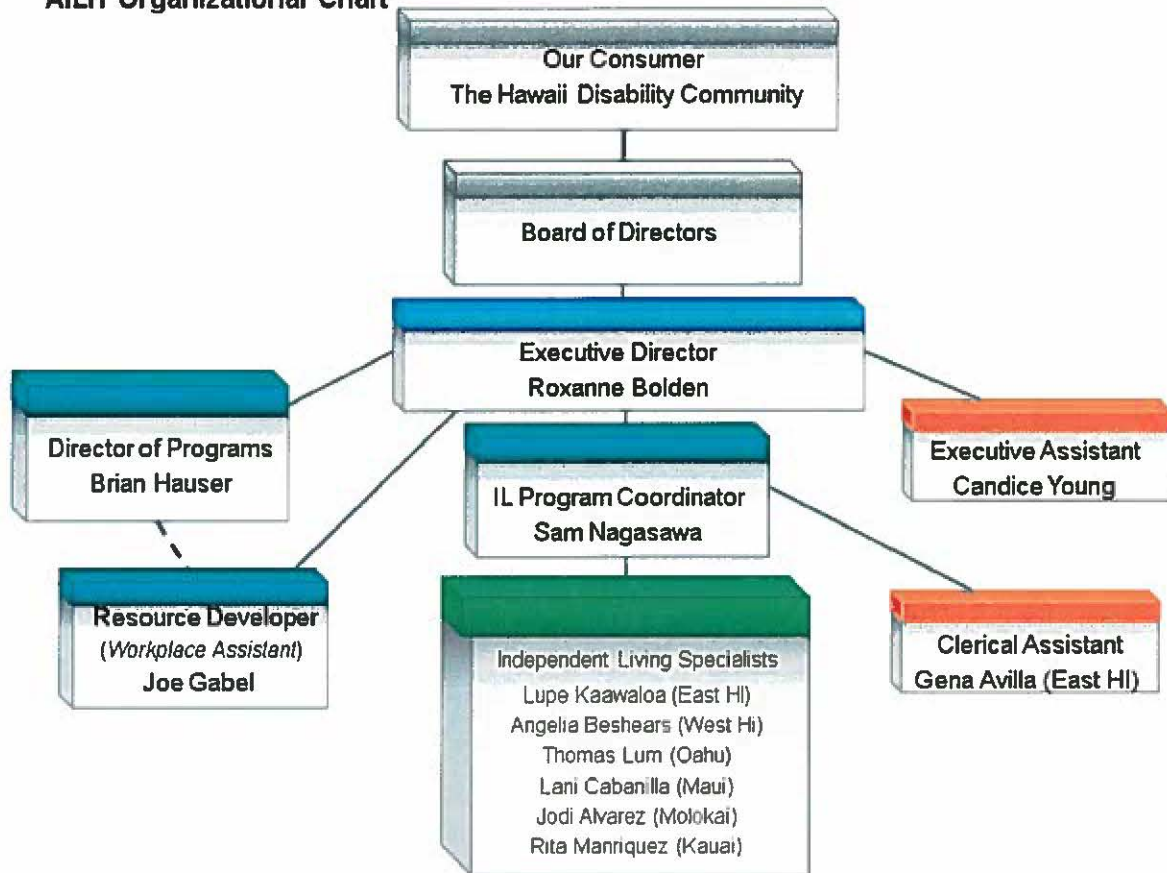
Sabine "Sam" Nagasawa, IL Program Coordinator. Sam, who manages our six dynamic IL Specialists, is an experienced and highly trained IL professional. She has over 15 years of experience in providing services to Hawaii's disability community. Her vast experience includes working with children with Autism, behavioral challenged youth, and older individuals who are blind. She has been a member of the Mayor's Committee on Aging and involved in the planning of the Adult Disability Resource Center, now established in Hilo on the Big Island. Sam started a support group for our elderly consumers with and without visual impairments. Her latest support group meets for recreational purposes and is comprised of young adults with various disabilities.

Our structure and responsibilities are further delineated in the organizational chart below.

B. Organization Chart

The applicant shall illustrate the position of each staff and line of responsibility/supervision. If the request is part of a large, multi-purpose organization, include an organization chart that illustrates the placement of this request.

AILH Organizational Chart



C. Compensation

The applicant shall provide the annual salaries paid by the applicant to the three highest paid officers, directors, or employees of the organization by position.

1. Roxanne Bolden, Executive Director, \$65,000.00
2. Brian I. Hauser, Director of Programs, \$43,000.00
3. Sabine Nagasawa, IL Program Coordinator, \$35,000

VI. Other

A. Litigation

The applicant shall disclose any pending litigation to which they are a party, including the disclosure of any outstanding judgement. If applicable, please explain.

N/a, We do not have any pending litigation

B. Licensure or Accreditation

The applicant shall specify any special qualifications, including but not limited to licensure or accreditation that the applicant possesses relevant to this request.

N/a

C. Federal and County Grants

The applicant shall separately specify the amount of federal and county grants awarded since July 1, 2014.

Title VII Part C Funding Allocated by the Federal Government

Five-year Contract \$377,892

One-time Supplement of \$42,793

D. Private Educational Institutions

The applicant shall specify whether the grant will be used to support or benefit a sectarian or non-sectarian private educational institution. Please see Article X, Section 1, of the State Constitution for the relevance of this question.

N/a, it will not

E. Future Sustainability Plan

The applicant shall provide a plan for sustaining after fiscal year 2015-16 the activity funded by the grant if the grant of this application is:

- (1) Received by the applicant for fiscal year 2015-16, but
- (2) Not received by the applicant thereafter.

AILH will continue to apply for funding to help support both operational and programmatic costs. This is in addition to continually working on developing new, diversified and creative resource opportunities, including:

- Federally funded grants and contracts
- State-funded grants and contracts
- Local government grants and contracts
- Adding a fee-for-service component
- Foundational funding
- Online auctions
- Charity walks
- Community fundraising

F. Certificate of Good Standing (If the Applicant is an Organization)

If the applicant is an organization, the applicant shall submit one (1) copy of a certificate of good standing from the Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs that is dated no earlier than December 1, 2014.

See attached Certificate of Good Standing

BUDGET REQUEST BY SOURCE OF FUNDS

Period: July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016

App Applicant: Aloha Independent Living Hawaii

BUDGET CATEGORIES	Total State Funds Requested (a)	Total Federal Funds Requested (b)	Total County Funds Requested (c)	Total Private/Other Funds Requested (d)
A. PERSONNEL COST				
1. Salaries	51,525			
2. Payroll Taxes & Assessments	14,880			
3. Fringe Benefits	16,995			
TOTAL PERSONNEL COST	83,400			
B. OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES				
1. Airfare, Inter-Island	2,400			
2. Insurance				
3. Lease/Rental of Equipment				
4. Lease/Rental of Space				
5. Staff Training	800			
6. Supplies	3,000			
7. Telecommunication	2,400			
8. Utilities				
9. Mileage	8,000			
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				
TOTAL OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES	16,600			
C. EQUIPMENT PURCHASES				
D. MOTOR VEHICLE PURCHASES				
E. CAPITAL				
TOTAL (A+B+C+D+E)	100,000			
SOURCES OF FUNDING		Budget Prepared By:		
(a) Total State Funds Requested	100,000	Roxanne U Bolden	808-497-2350	
(b) Total Federal Funds Requested		Name (Please type or print)		
(c) Total County Funds Requested				
(d) Total Private/Other Funds Requested				
TOTAL BUDGET	100,000	Signature of Authorized Official Dara Fukuhara, Board Chair Name and Title (Please type or print)		
			1/30/15	Date

BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - PERSONNEL SALARIES AND WAGES

Period: July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016

Applicant: Aloha Independent Living Hawaii

POSITION TITLE	FULL TIME EQUIVALENT	ANNUAL SALARY A	% OF TIME ALLOCATED TO GRANT REQUEST B	TOTAL STATE FUNDS REQUESTED (A x B)
IL Specialist - New	0.5	\$9,600.00	100.00%	\$ 9,600.00
IL Specialist - New	0.5	\$9,600.00	100.00%	\$ 9,600.00
IL Specialist - New	0.5	\$9,600.00	100.00%	\$ 9,600.00
IL Specialist - New	0.5	\$9,600.00	100.00%	\$ 9,600.00
IL Specialist - Increase hours	0.25	\$29,000.00	15.00%	\$ 4,350.00
IL Specialist - Increase hours	0.25	\$29,000.00	15.00%	\$ 4,350.00
Senior IL Specialist - Increase hours	0.25	\$29,500.00	15.00%	\$ 4,425.00
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
TOTAL:				51,525.00
JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:				

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS AND/OR GRANTS

Applicant: Aloha Independent Living Hawaii

	CONTRACT DESCRIPTION	EFFECTIVE DATES	AGENCY	GOVERNMENT ENTITY (U.S. / State / Haw / Hon / Kau / Mau)	CONTRACT VALUE
1.	Statewide IL Services Grant	10-1-09 to 10-1-16	DVR	State	\$237,000
2.	Federal Grant	10-1-14 to 10-1-19	RSA	U.S.	\$420,685
3.	Assistive Technology Grant	7-18-12	WDC	State	\$10,000
4.					
5.					
6.					
7.					
8.					
9.					
10.					
				TOTAL	667,685.00

**DECLARATION STATEMENT OF
APPLICANTS FOR GRANTS PURSUANT TO
CHAPTER 42F, HAWAII REVISED STATUTES**

The undersigned authorized representative of the applicant certifies the following:

- 1) The applicant meets and will comply with all of the following standards for the award of grants pursuant to Section 42F-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes:
 - a) Is licensed or accredited, in accordance with federal, state, or county statutes, rules, or ordinances, to conduct the activities or provide the services for which a grant is awarded;
 - b) Complies with all applicable federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, creed, sex, age, sexual orientation, or disability;
 - c) Agrees not to use state funds for entertainment or lobbying activities; and
 - d) Allows the state agency to which funds for the grant were appropriated for expenditure, legislative committees and their staff, and the auditor full access to their records, reports, files, and other related documents and information for purposes of monitoring, measuring the effectiveness, and ensuring the proper expenditure of the grant.

- 2) If the applicant is an organization, the applicant meets the following requirements pursuant to Section 42F-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes:
 - a) Is incorporated under the laws of the State; and
 - b) Has bylaws or policies that describe the manner in which the activities or services for which a grant is awarded shall be conducted or provided.

- 3) If the applicant is a non-profit organization, it meets the following requirements pursuant to Section 42F-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes:
 - a) Is determined and designated to be a non-profit organization by the Internal Revenue Service; and
 - b) Has a governing board whose members have no material conflict of interest and serve without compensation.

Pursuant to Section 42F-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes, for grants used for the acquisition of land, when the organization discontinues the activities or services on the land acquired for which the grant was awarded and disposes of the land in fee simple or by lease, the organization shall negotiate with the expending agency for a lump sum or installment repayment to the State of the amount of the grant used for the acquisition of the land.

Further, the undersigned authorized representative certifies that this statement is true and correct to the best of the applicant's knowledge.

Aloha Independent Living Hawaii

(Typed Name of Individual or Organization)



(Signature)
Dara Fukuhara

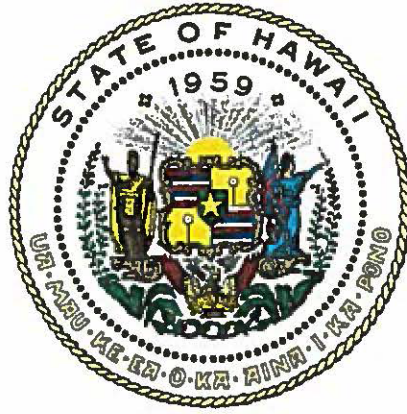
(Typed Name)

January 30, 2015

(Date)

Board Chair/Secretary

(Title)



Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs

CERTIFICATE OF GOOD STANDING

I, the undersigned Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs of the State of Hawaii, do hereby certify that

ALOHA INDEPENDENT LIVING HAWAII

was incorporated under the laws of Hawaii on 04/08/2008 ; that it is an existing nonprofit corporation; and that, as far as the records of this Department reveal, has complied with all of the provisions of the Hawaii Nonprofit Corporations Act, regulating domestic nonprofit corporations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, at Honolulu, Hawaii.

Dated: January 28, 2015



[REDACTED SIGNATURE]

Interim Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION
600 KAPIOLANI BLVD., ROOM 304, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

June 2, 2014

Re: Contract between the State of Hawaii, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation and Aloha Independent Living

Aloha Independent Living is a current contracted provider with the State of Hawaii, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR). As a Program Specialist for DVR since August 2011, I have had the opportunity to work with Aloha Independent Living as their contract administrator.


Roxanne Bolden and staff have been responsive in meeting the needs of persons with disabilities in the State of Hawaii. In 2011, Aloha Independent Living submitted a proposal request for \$726,731 for two years to provide IL services to the all major islands in the State. Hawaii DVR awarded them \$181,683. Despite the reduction in the funding amount, Aloha IL was able to provide services to approximately 200 persons in one year.

In the summer of 2013, Hawaii DVR was informed that the Center for Independent Living had officially shut their doors and was no longer providing services. DVR approached Aloha IL to inquire if they had the capacity to provide outreach and services. With an additional \$67,724 in pure State funds, Aloha IL was quickly able to provide Independent Living Services to qualified individuals.

Aloha Independent Living is currently eight months into their current 12 month contract. Based on their last quarterly report, they have provided services to 166 persons in the rural areas of the State of Hawaii. Aloha IL has been compliant with their current contract by submitting all required reports and documents, as well as participating in regular face to face quarterly meetings. The staff at Aloha Independent Living has been open in their discussions about the needs of consumers and have advocated for services with DVR.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at (808) 586-9746 or at lgokan@dhs.hawaii.gov.

Sincerely,


Lorene Gokan, M.Ed., CRC
Program Specialist
Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

William P. Kenoi
Mayor



Alan R. Parker
Executive on Aging

County of Hawai'i

OFFICE OF AGING

Aging and Disability Resource Center, 1055 Kino'ole Street, Suite 101, Hilo, Hawai'i 96720-3872
Phone (808) 961-8600 • Fax (808) 961-8603 • Email: hcoa@hawaiiantel.net
West Hawai'i Civic Center, 74-5044 Ane Keohokālole Highway, Kailua-Kona 96740
Phone (808) 323-4390 • Fax (808) 323-4398

May 22, 2014

To Whom It May Concern,

As the director of the Hawai'i County Office of Aging, I enthusiastically support the Aloha Independent Living Hawaii proposal to obtain Independent Living Funds for the Island of Hawaii.

Aloha Independent Living has for many years been a partner of the Hawaii County Office of Aging. Since the demise of Hawaii Center for Independent Living (HCIL), Aloha Independent Living has been the primary recipient of referrals from our Aging & Disability Resource Center.

We would especially like to see Aloha Independent Living occupying the office space in our facility formerly utilized by HCIL. Our ADRC is the only physical ADRC facility in the State of Hawaii.

[REDACTED]
Alan Parker
Executive on Aging

ap





Hawaii Fi-Do Service and Therapy Dogs

Accredited ADI Program

EIN # 99-0353345

Board of Directors:

May 10, 2014

Dara Fukahara
Board Chair

Sherry Heiser
Board Treasurer

Sheree Loui
Board Secretary

Linda Markt
Public Relations

Madonna Matsui
Business Owner

Rosanne Daniels
Kanetake
Consumer Advisor

Kaiki Gunderson Cook
**Nurse & Certified
service dog trainer**

Donna Machado
Health Care Provider

Patricia Storino
Business Owner

Advisory Board:

Lisa Evans
Attorney at Law

Cindy File
Estates Turtle Bay

Karen Lombardi
Attorney at Law

Selma Brown
Accountant

Scott Suzuki
Attorney at Law

Joe Kasowski
Veteran

Executive Director:

Susan Luehrs
**Founder/Educator
Certified Service Dog
Trainer
CEO**

To Whom it May Concern,

It is my pleasure to write a letter in support of Aloha Independent Living Hawaii.

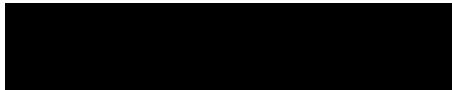
On a personal level I have worked with AILH from the conception to the formation of the organization, as both a founder and Board member. The rural communities on Oahu are underserved and there is a great need for services that are offered by AILH.

Hawaii Fi-Do Service Dogs works with the same population and has in many occasions referred our clients to AILH and incorporated our community activities. Together we ran a combined Youth at Risk program on the North Shore of Oahu as well as a Women Support group.

One of our working teams needed assistance from the VA and AILH was able to walk him through the process and get his benefits. Another example of their help was when one of our volunteers who suffers from multiple sclerosis started losing her ability to walk. AILH quickly jumped in and donated a wheelchair to her.

In conclusion, I fully support the efforts of the AILH as they seek external funding to support programs designed to help people with disabilities in the state of Hawaii.

Sincerely,



Susan Luehrs
Executive Director
Hawaii FI-DO Service Dogs



June 2, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

The Lions Clubs of Region VII East Hawaii would like to show our support for the Aloha Independent Living Hawaii. We hope that they will be able to receive grant funding to help their organization continue to help those in need. Each year our Lions Clubs has a luncheon for the visually impaired as well as other disabilities. Sam Nagasawa of Aloha Independent Living helps to get the word out to their clients so they can attend our annual event. We also are more aware of the needs of the clients because of Sam and AILH. We really appreciate what Sam and the others do for our community because they're making sure those with disabilities are getting the support they need. Please support AILH because we the Region VII Lions Clubs of East Hawaii do.

Thank you,

Region VII Zone Chair
Melissa Chong


To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Ok D. Joo. I am a Korean male who is paralyzed on the right side. I have no family and I don't speak English good. I have chore service thru Bayada. My chore service providers have tried to help me but can only do what they can. Bayada called Lupe at Aloha Independent Living Hawaii and inquired about services for me. Lupe explained to them their services. My chore service provider talked with me about Lupe and her agency and wanted me to think about asking Lupe to come and help me. I told my chore service provider that I would allow Lupe to come and talk with me and then I would allow her to help me.

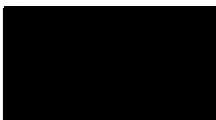
Lupe came and talked with me. I needed help with my County Housing. I would have lost the help I am getting from County Housing if my service providers did not try to help me get connected with Lupe and Aloha Independent Living Hawaii. Lupe took me to get my social security verification and talk with my bank to copies of my statements. Lupe also talked with my service coordinator with my Ohana Health insurance to get supplies I needed for my personal hygiene. Lupe looked up how to get my phone on a prepaid plan so that I wasn't paying too much for my phone service. Now that my housing is good, I have a phone, my service coordinator approved more in home help, Lupe is going to help me to try and make my immigration papers good by linking me up with the people who can help me. She will be taking me to see Rose at the Hilo Immigration office on August 14, 2013.

I am thankful for getting help from Lupe and Aloha Independent Living Hawaii.

Thank You,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

Ok D. Joo

A black rectangular redaction box covering contact information.

Aloha Ms Bolden,

I am writing this letter of support to share how very thankful I am for having the support and help from Lupe Ka'awaloa at Aloha

Independent Living Hawaii's agency and services. I had need of help and support of "magnitude" proportions and Lupe and

AILH came through for me so very well in many areas I had no idea how to navigate! I was home bound and on medical leave

without pay from My 20 + year career and in need of many things to get myself situated and able to heal and recover and get

support.

Mahalo Nui Loa for Your agencies wonderful support and continued help to myself and my list of needs. Mahalo to

Lupe and Aloha Independent Living Hawaii for ALL they are able to do and to offer us all in care and support. I hope the

funding is renewed for Your agency and that You are able to continue to do all the wonderful work and all the community help

and support you are giving to us all. Mahalo Mahalo!

Sincerely,

Cynthia R Massa, client AILH

Dear AILH

I am writing to express my gratitude for the care and help shown by your employees, (Lupe and Sam)

I started with AILH more as a mentor to the children showing that even with disabilities, you can still enjoy doing things. We had a terrific time going to the Zoo, to a children's play castle, to a local county pool, and other different type of things including movies. The adults went to Kona from Hilo to walk in a fundraiser around a course that was laid out. At the time I was unable to walk the whole distance due to the fact that my COPD was acting up and Lupe brought me back to the start in a handivan. All in all, whenever we went on an excursion, they never failed to feed us and supply us with drinks. Another thing that helped the clients was that their parent or aide was to be present during this period. This help to bond the two into a closer relationship.

She also helps clients complete their paper work for housing, medical, monetary help, clothes and baby items were also located and donated. She has a great re pore with her clients.

Then in October of 2012, I fell and suffered a compound fracture of my left leg and was in the hospital for 4 days and then rehab for three months. During this time, Lupe was in touch with me and asked if there was anything that I needed. Well, upon discharge, there was plenty of needs and with Lupe's help, I was able to fulfill them. She went into the storage area they have and was able to find most of what I needed had been donated and when cleaned up were just like new and just what I needed and saved me a huge bundle of money; i.e., transport wheel chair, regular wheel chair, a bedside commode, a shower bench and a walker.

Thank you for having them for the less fortunate disabled.

Patricia A. Hess



From: Jay Wason <j534@ymail.com>
Date: August 14, 2013, 5:57:51 PM HST
To: Lupe Kaawaloa <lupek@alohailhawaii.org>
Subject: Re: Done !
Reply-To: Jay Wason <j534@ymail.com>

To Whom It May Concern :

I feel honored To write this letter as a testimonial to the benefit of having such a resource available to me . I remember when it was first suggested that I should see if there was any thing that this new company could help me with . At the time I was skeptical and feeling like it was the "end of my world" so to speak because I had been told that I needed to " consider" moving into assisted living housing and I really wanted to stay in "my home" . I was not ready to go there ! Lupe' was contacted and she came to interveiw me and possibly do an intake . As I look back this was a turning point for me . I do not regret because I have learded a lot of thing's to be able to stay independent and on my own . I have learned to be acceptable of my disability instead of denying I had a problem . I have learned how to budget my monies better . I now do better when I am in a crowd when before I used to "flip out" . And most of all ; I feel I have found a true friend that I can count on ! Some one that I can talk to about my medical issues and even if she could not do any thing to help she still listend to me whine . I look forward to the christmas party every year as a mean's to get out and socialize with people that wont judge me because we all are disabled . [even though the first year it was hard to get me out of my confort zone] This company , Aloha Independent Living , has helped me a lot and continues to do so . They have kind and careing worker's but I think I got the best one Lupe' !! Any one that can put up with me , my hard head way's , and is able to get me to accept change is very valuble ! LOL !! I really hope that they do not suffer a budget cut as it would be detrimental to myself as well as other's in the program !

Aloha,

We are Jennie & James Armstrong. We are very fortunate for all the things that Aloha Independent Living Hawaii has done for us.

I, Jennie, am a double amputee with hearing & visual impairments. My husband, James, is a veteran with the task of being my caregiver.

For me, ALIH has given me the opportunity to socialize with others and allowed ~~me~~ to have the feeling of having a normal life. I am able to get information about senior discounts, community activities and social gatherings. I am a member of the women's support group as well as the Adult support group. Being around others with similar disabilities as myself I feel normal, relaxed and accepted. For me, that is a big plus because it's been a long time ~~before~~ ^{since} I have felt this way.

For my husband - he appreciates the support he has to take care of me. He too attends the Adult support group. My husband appreciates that Aloha Independent Living Hawaii is able to assist us with everything from explaining the many DHS letters to advocating to make sure my medical coverage continues despite the increase in our income because he ^{now} qualifies for retirement benefits.

I believe in helping others and I am

Very grateful I was able to link up with Aloha Independent Living Hawaii. With their help I am able to be active, socialize and enjoy my life.

Aloha, Aloha, Aloha !!! Mahalo !!!



8/13/2013

Aloha,

My name is Gleda Stroud-Macanas and I am a handicapped 60 year old woman. In 2009 I had stroke that literally paralyzed the right side of my body. I am unable to use my right hand but am fortunate to be able to walk with my walker. I lived in a rehab facility in North Carolina for the past 3 years. When I was able to discharge from the facility I wanted to move back to Hawaii. I have been back in Hawaii since July 2013. I rented two different units within a month. Within 2 days of meeting with Lupe Kaawaloa from Aloha Independent Living Hawaii, I was able to move into an apartment of my own.

I met Lupe on August 6, 2013 in Hilo. She called me to schedule an intake meeting. However, after telling Lupe my story, she immediately asked if it would be okay to meet face to face within the next 10-15 minutes. Lupe met me at the natural food store in Hilo Shopping Center. We sat and talked more about the services I needed. Immediately, Lupe began to seek out resources to help me out.

I needed to find a place of my own as I no longer felt comfortable renting from the landlord I was with. I felt that I was being watched because the door that connected my studio unit to the landlord's living area was always slightly opened. One night as I was using the bathroom I saw lights coming from this door pointing directly to the bathroom. I talked with the landlord about this, but she denied it. My landlord would walk in and out of my unit as she/he pleased. Because I complained about these issues, the landlord let me know that I needed to move out and gave a 45 day notice. I needed to find a place of my own.

Lupe helped me to fill out housing applications and made sure that all the necessary information and documentation was submitted to the realties I applied at. It was 2 days later that I received a call from Lupe letting me know that I was approved to move into one of the two units I had applied for. Lupe was not scheduled to meet with me that day, but freed up her schedule so that she could take me to look at the apartments. I loved them both, but chose one. Lupe helped me talk to the realtors to see what I needed to do in order to move into the units. Together we brain stormed how it would be possible for me to move into my own apartment by the end of the day.

Fortunately, I had the finances to make the initial deposit and prorated rent. I had some money in my bank account and Lupe was able to talk with my landlord, inquiring about the rent I paid for the month of August and what my refund would be should I decide to move out that day. After gathering all the information regarding my finances and what I

needed to put down to move in my own apartment by the end of the day, I made the decision to move forward. Lupe helped me to call the realty and let them know that I wanted to move in today and that within the hour we would back at their office with all the monies needed to allow me to move in.

Lupe helped me gather all of my things from the unit I was living in. She assisted me with purchasing and picking up a new bed and took me back to the realty to make the payments as well as sign my one year lease. After signing the lease, Lupe helped me move into my own apartment and even set up my bed. I didn't not care that I had no furniture, I was just so happy to have my own place.

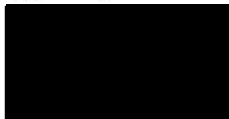
The next day, Lupe stopped by to give me phone numbers for the cable company, HELCO and Hawaiian TelCom. However, I was already on the phone with Hawaiian TelCom. I was so happy to see Lupe because I was not sure about what I was doing with Hawaiian TelCom. Lupe was a second pair of ears for me. She helped me to understand what services I was ordering with Hawaiian TelCom. She also understood the discounts that were given to persons eligible for the Life Line Service and was able to explain that to me.

I am very grateful for the help I have gotten from Lupe and Aloha Independent Living Hawaii. Lupe also informed me of the peer support groups that are offered and I am looking forward to attending the Adult Support Group as well as the Women's Support Group. I am very happy to have my own apartment. Everything will be complete once my internet and phone service is hooked up.

Thank You,



Gleda Stroud Macanas



Mr. Gary M. walked into our Hilo office one day and asked for assistance in understanding why his Social Security benefits were being cut. Gary had just moved from California to Hawaii to help a friend. After looking over the letters that were sent to Gary, it was discovered that Gary's benefits were being decreased because he now had to pay for his Medicare premiums. Within an hour of Gary's arrival, we were able to contact Medicaid and be informed that his Medicare premiums will be paid and that his Social Security benefits will be reflect this within a few months and complete a SNAP application. By the end of the day, Gary felt more informed of his Social Security benefits decrease, Medicare premiums, Medicaid, and was receiving SNAP benefits.

Mr. Clyde H, an avid author, is a paraplegic male living on the Big Island. Clyde was referred to Aloha Independent Living Hawaii by Hilo Medical Center's Extended Care Department (ECD). He was a patient at ECD for about 7 years. Clyde sought assistance in finding housing as he wanted to transition out of the care facility and back into the community. Prior to his admittance at Hilo Medical Center, Clyde was very much independent and wanted to be independent again. The road to independence began with Clyde continuing to save money to be able to have enough for a rental deposit and the first month's rent. However, unbeknownst to him, Clyde's name came to the top of the County Housing Section 8 waitlist. Finding a home that was wheelchair accessible was the next challenge. While working on that challenge we started working on gathering information on financial assistance for Clyde once he is discharged. Clyde never gave up hope despite the hurdles we encountered since being discharged, having to move into two different units, before finding a rental he could call home. Today, Clyde has his own home, with the help of County Housing & his Section 8 Voucher and is living independently, with the help of home care providers, in his community.

Aliwis became a consumer on July 9, 2014, he is 55 years old and moved from the Big Island to be closer to family on Maui. He was referred from Office of Aging. Aliwis is challenged with Motor Neuron Disease and is seeking personal assistance to help clean his home. His right hand and feet are swollen and sometimes sore. He is assisted with the use of a walker and wheel chair. He is able to clean his 1 bedroom unit in a very slow pace which takes him the whole day to dust, sweep and mop just the bedroom. He gets tired easily and needs to takes several breaks to rest and catch his breath. After following up on Aliwis's medical providers and advocating for his request in obtaining a personal assistance. On August 15, 2014 Aliwis began services and is now assisted with a personal assistant 2 times a week.